











September 10, 2020

The Honorable Andrew Wheeler, Administrator Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW Mail Code: 1101A Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Wheeler,

We are writing you today as a coalition of interested agriculture groups in Nebraska to encourage the timely re-registration decision regarding over-the-top, post-emerge dicamba products, an important tool for our farmers. While crops are still in the field for the 2020 growing season, farmers are beginning to make planting decisions for 2021 and will likewise be ordering seed and crop protection products. We ask that the Agency issue new, simple, and understandable registrations for these dicamba products. A timely decision is crucial for Nebraska's farmers as they plan for the next growing season.

As the state's largest industry, agriculture is vitally important to the strength and stability of Nebraska's economy. Corn and soybean production play a large role in that strength. In an industry full of challenges, weed management remains a leading threat to yield in these row crops. Dicamba herbicides used on dicamba-tolerant crops are a critical technology for farmers continuing to produce more food and fuel using fewer natural resources and agricultural inputs. While other chemistries exist, a diverse selection of crop protection products is absolutely vital to combat and prevent herbicide resistance. Difficult weed resistance issues in Nebraska have resulted from a limited selection of herbicides. These dicamba products offer Nebraska farmers additional options for broadening weed control and increasing yield.

Nebraska's continued reduction in off target application reports is impressive when you consider the exponential increase in use of dicamba technology over the past five years. We believe the rigorous training system in place has produced the outcome we are now seeing.

Our farmers, agricultural retailers, and applicators have not only made significant investments in dicamba tolerant crops but have also made great strides in the safe and productive use of the product.

We appreciate EPA's efforts to find a sensible solution to the difficult situation in which our farmers find themselves, due to the ruling of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. We urge you to use all available resources to make a timely decision in favor of new labels for these vital products. We believe that a multi-year label is important to farmers making long term effective agronomic decisions.

Sincerely,

Scott Merritt

President

Nebraska Agri-Business Association

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Dan Nerud President

Nebraska Corn Growers Association

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